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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY
for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 25th
of the month.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee reports from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 15th, 1886.

THE appearance of cholera at Montevideo brings that dreaded disease one step nearer Brazil, and shows how difficult it is to check its progress by quarantine restrictions. We are glad to note that the Uruguayan authorities have apparently succeeded in localizing the outbreak and that no new cases are reported. They may be fortunate enough, perhaps, to crush it out altogether and thus prevent an epidemic. The ease, however, with which the disease passed all the quarantine restrictions shows how unwise it is to devote attention to that one precaution alone. The Uruguayan quarantine was as rigid as it possibly could be. The soldiers along the River did not hesitate to fire ball cartridges upon every small boat approaching land, and it was made almost impossible for any communication to be held through the two countries except under the prescribed quarantine regulations. And yet, in spite of every precaution, the disease suddenly broke out in Montevideo itself! So, too, during the recent epidemics in France, Italy and Spain; the quarantines were very generally ineffectual to stay the progress of the epidemic. The one noteworthy instance where it did prove effectual was along the Portuguese frontier. We do not say that it is impossible to keep cholera out of Brazil by a strict enforcement of quarantine restrictions; but we do say that the chances are decidedly against it. The wise thing to do, therefore, is to put every Brazilian city in order for the dreaded visitation, so that its ravages may be reduced to a minimum. In the Argentine Republic the epidemic is sensibly diminishing, but from Paraguay we have no news. Neither are we informed how widely the disease has spread throughout the Argentine provinces.

Thus far we seem to have been talking into thin air in respect to the necessity of putting this city into a good sanitary condition. The wise men who compose our sanitary commissions are not accustomed to accept suggestions from the press, nor from the public; they are ten-candle-power lights unto themselves. They have secured a large credit for sanitary purposes, and they appear to be disposed to spend it where it will do the most good—to themselves, of course. They have already expended over a hundred thousand sterling on a distant lazaretto which began to fall down before it was completed. And now they are spending more money in repairs, more in

administration, more in communication and naval guard, and still more in a floating pest-house. The thousand-conto lazaretto, therefore, appears to be merely a summer hotel, from which the health board intends to make some money without taking any risks. If a lot of healthy travellers come along, they will be received, disinfected, lodged and fed for a couple of weeks with all due precaution and for a reasonable consideration; but if any chance to be ill with an infectious disease, then they must keep away. The prime object seems to be to keep the lazaretto in a good healthy condition. Should any of its inmates fall ill, then to the floating pest-house they must go, and not to the lazaretto infirmary! The whole affair is elaborately designed to do the least possible good at the greatest possible expense. And in the meantime the back streets of this city remain in a disgraceful condition, the *cortiços* remain dirty and overcrowded, cow-stables and other pestilential establishments remain in crowded districts, the kitchen enclosures of many private residences remain uncleaned, and nothing whatever is done to regulate the water supply and to secure a proper inspection of the markets. Good, wholesome food for the poor is a sanitary necessity of the greatest importance; but no one considers it for a moment! Commissioners will be appointed, of course; but these are merely to help spend the money! And then, when the plague comes, more money will be wanted, and the work of properly cleaning the city will have to be begun *ab initio*.

THE outcome of a complaint against one of the most progressive of Brazilian school-teachers for punishing a refractory boy, which we have before noticed in our local columns, has been a sentence from the inspector-general of primary instruction suspending this teacher from the exercise of his profession for a period of three months. The absurdity, as well as the injustice, of the whole affair is apparent at first sight. The teacher in question, Dr. Joaquim Abilio Borges, is one of the proprietors and conductors of a private school in Botafogo, which enjoys the reputation of being one of the best of its kind in the city. He will still continue to manage the business affairs of his school, though he may not preside in the class-room, and the sentence therefore will result in very slight pecuniary injury. Were he simply a salaried teacher, however, the penalty would be painfully unjust, as penalties go in this country. If military officers may assassinate a journalist under the very windows of the police station, or a Botafogo woman beat, torture and starve her slaves to death, or a Santa Cruz *abattoir* director beat a subordinate to the risk of his life, or some suburban proprietors pollute the streams which supply a large district of the city with drinking water, and all this without the slightest penalty, then assuredly the imposition of a fine of one-fourth of a year's salary for merely whipping an incorrigible school-boy, without the slightest risk to life or health, is manifestly disproportionate and unjust. From such a decision it would appear that the skin on a boy's back is far more sacred than a man's life. If Brazilians were consistent in these matters, and were as eager to punish assassins, seducers, thieves and other criminals, as they are to inflict heavy penalties for striking a blow with the unarmed hand, or with a whip, we should have little to say, for it would not be so apparent that they consider life and limb as of less value than insulted honor. As it is, a false sentiment in regard to one's honor appears not only to determine social conduct, but it even dominates the administration of justice. A man may be called every villainous epithet

in the language and have his character and reputation assailed in the columns of the daily press with the utmost impunity, for the law provides an escape for his assailant through the *testa de ferro*. Should he undertake to procure the only satisfaction left to him, however, by horse-whipping his cowardly assailant, or knocking him down in the street, the whole police and judicial power of the country would be used to punish him, and he might consider himself fortunate if he were to get off at a cost of five to ten centos of reis. A grosser travesty of justice never was invented.

IN its direct effect on the schools of the country, this sentence against Dr. Joaquim Abilio Borges can not fail to have a most pernicious effect. The profession of teaching is already discredited enough, without this further humiliation and degradation. With the enormous amount of ignorance in the country, which unquestionably includes over three-fourths of the population among the illiterates, with a very imperfectly organized and equipped system of public schools which are totally inadequate to meet the needs of the people, and with an unorganized, undisciplined and discredited corps of teachers who are badly paid and looked down upon—with such a state of affairs confronting it, the clear duty of the government is to grant aid and encouragement to the teachers so that their hands may be strengthened in the difficult tasks before them. We have very little sympathy with that namby-pamby sentiment which forbids a teacher to punish a refractory pupil. Cases of harsh punishment will occur, of course; but these could easily be met by the ordinary provisions of law. A teacher must be held responsible for his acts, just like any other citizen. But when the sentiment is carried so far as to tie the teacher's hands absolutely, which is tacit permission to the pupils to do just as they please, then the results can not be otherwise than most hurtful. Discipline is a very necessary requisite in every school, and there are but few teachers so happily constituted that they can maintain it without the right to punish. And the good effects of investing teachers with such rights are seen in England, Germany and the United States where education has made such substantial progress and where the authority of the law is so much better recognized by the people. In view of all the circumstances we do not hesitate to say that a good sound school system is absolutely impossible in Brazil under existing laws and social conditions. In the first place the profession of teaching must be elevated and organized, and the authority of the teacher must be extended and strengthened. When a vicious boy comes under discipline, as was the recent case in the Collegio Abilio, the spectacle of having the daily press filled with virulent attacks on the teacher, and with the replies of the teacher and his friends, should never be seen. And then, instead of having the press and the government all arrayed against the teacher simply because he put a few harmless stripes on a boy's back for bad conduct, both of these powers should leave him alone to manage his own business in his own way. In a general sense, it ought to be considered that if a man has intelligence enough to teach a school, he certainly ought to have sufficient judgment to be entrusted with authority enough to preserve order. In the case in hand, no one claims that the boy was crippled, maimed or seriously injured. His skin simply showed the marks of a switch—and that is all there was to it. We have had a "tempest in a teapot" over it, however, and now an inordinate penalty is imposed upon a good teacher for what a super-sensitive public chooses to consider an

offense! And to satisfy this foolish sentiment—which certainly is not the outcome of any really humane feeling—the career of an ambitious and progressive teacher is checked and his usefulness seriously impaired!

A CAUTION.

IN view of the critical state of affairs in this country and in the River Plate republics at this moment, and in view, also, of the renewed efforts on the part of the governments of these countries to attract larger numbers of immigrants, we consider it to be an imperative duty to call the attention of intending emigrants to the following facts. And this duty is all the more imperative because neither the governments of these countries, nor the immigration societies and enterprises organized within them, are honest and humane enough to check their propagandas for a time in order to prevent the helpless emigrant from incurring exceptional risks and hardships. At the present moment there is cholera in all three of the River Plate republics, and in the Argentine Republic it seems to be widespread among the provincial cities and colonies. As yet this dreaded disease has not made its appearance in Brazil, but may do so at any moment. In view of this state of affairs, no emigrant should come to these countries until the danger has passed, not only because of the epidemic itself, but because of the quarantine restrictions and hardships everywhere imposed. There are now over 5,000 poor immigrants in quarantine on the island of Martin Garcia, Argentine Republic, who are said to be suffering for food and shelter. Should any large number come to Brazil from suspected Mediterranean ports, their situation would be equally as bad.

Then, too, aside from the cholera epidemic, no large numbers of emigrants should come to Brazil during the hot season—December to April—for the simple reason that the risks from exposure in the coast cities are very great during those months. From Santos north there is always danger from yellow fever, and unless provisions are made for their immediate transportation into the interior, the risks incurred are very great. As the planters are now prepared to receive only some few hundreds, as there are but few lots of public lands surveyed and ready for them, and as the government is absolutely unable to handle the number of arrivals contracted for—four to five thousand a month—it will be seen that a large immigration in the hot season will be simply exposing large numbers of poor people to insufficient food and shelter at a time when the danger is greatest. Emigrants who have decided to cast their lot in Brazil will be wise to defer coming until the cool season.

As to the propaganda now inaugurated, thousands of pamphlets are being printed for circulation in Europe. Their rose-colored statements should be accepted with much reserve, as their purposes are more speculative than philanthropic.

A CORRECTION.

ESCRITORIO DA COMPANHIA DE
GAS PARANENSE, LIMITADA.

PARÁ, 25th November, 1886.

The Editor of the Rio News.

Dear Sir.—I trust you will allow me a small space to counteract any wrong impression which may have been conveyed to your numerous readers, after reading the paragraph concerning the *Pará Gas Company* in your impression of the 8th November. Without entering into the merits or demerits of the case between the government and this company, I may remark that if erecting a new gasholder (at work),

and re-crowning the two old ones (one finished), renovating the works generally, and laying many new mains, etc., is doing "nothing whatever", then the *Gram-Pará* is right. But the above being well known facts, I leave your readers to judge of the accuracy of the authority from which you quote. Believe me, Sir,

Yours respectfully,
FRED. S. NORTH,
Engineer and Manager.

There is, we fear, a strong inclination on the part of many of our Brazilian colleagues to exaggerate in their complaints against the foreign companies performing public services in this country. We are too far away from Pará to know from personal observation just how matters stand, and we are therefore compelled to depend wholly on our exchanges for news. We do not charge that they purposely exaggerate in their comments on foreign companies, but it is our experience that Brazilian editors are very often deceived themselves by trusting too implicitly to the interested statements of friends. In the case of the *Pará Gas Co.*, we had seen so many complaints, and had noted so many fines for defective service, that the statements of the *Diário do Gram-Pará* seemed to be well founded.—Eds. News.]

YOUNG BRAZIL.

A conversation overheard in a traincar has led to our treating of the serious question of what is to result from the inveterate proclivity of Brazilian youth to the professions.

Said one *doutor in posse* to a friend: "So..... has been unable to pass his examination?" "Yes," replies the friend, "he is a fool (*burro*) and must now seek employment in commerce." This seems to be the average estimate of commerce by the rising generation. Any youth who can pass his examinations and secure the coveted diploma is wise enough to decree laws, impose taxes and entirely administer the government, while the commercial and agricultural *burro* must be content with submitting to the laws, paying the taxes and accepting the administration of these born-in-the-purple doctors.

No one can deny that the constitution of a native-born aristocracy, whose hands can use no meaner implements than the history, the legal or literary goose-quill, or the theodolite, is dangerous in the extreme in a country declared to be essentially agricultural, and as such dependent on commerce for its supply of the most common requirements of clothing, and of many of the necessities of life. For the result is that commerce reverts to the producer and his representative, the foreign merchant, and that sooner or later a conflict must arise. We say a contest must arise, for with the disappearance of slavery and its substitution by free laborers, whose children, born Brazilian citizens, will have been educated to see no dishonor in manual labor, these new citizens are not likely to submit to the imposition of a legislative representative simply because he has a diploma and is related to some political chief. Rather will they chose a member of their own class who will be able to explain the needs of his constituency, and not consume sessions in rhetorical displays on questions more or less abstract, or, when not abstract, of a purely personal character.

A curious feature in this proclivity for professions—and government employment—is that, as a rule, the fathers of these youths have gained their fortunes in commerce, more or less licit as the case arose, and that these fathers seem to have determined that the sons are not to experience their former hardships, but enjoy the fruits

of the sacrifices already made. This contemplation by the fathers is generally returned by the sons sinking the patronymic Souza, Silva, or Guimarães, which may have appeared on the door of a counting house, and substituting therefore what Sr. Joaquim Nabuco calls a title, useful because it leads to geographical research.

The ultimate result of the present tendency of the coming generation is clearly to turn over the management of the country to naturalized citizens, or the native-born children of foreigners, who, as the only producers, will refuse to support an utterly parasitical class, which, called into existence by antediluvian laws and regulations, has now no reason for existence. Young Brazil will need more than a diploma when a struggle arises, and this diploma constituting his all, what result is to be expected?

THE COFFEE MARKET.

To the Editor:

Dear Sir.—All circulars and letters from Europe and America ever since July, 1886, have been calling attention to the fact that consumers have for some years past pursued a hand to mouth policy, never holding stocks of coffee, and that therefore the shrinkage in the stocks in the outports of consuming countries, combined with the reports of damage to the present crop, taking the Brazil crops as 6 to 6½ millions, would have a powerful effect on the prices of coffee. Later on comes the additional effects of the cold weather, affecting the next or 1886-87 crop, and of the failure of the bloom.

On this basis a syndicate is formed to buy coffee in Rio and also in consuming markets, and the price of fair Rio is run up from 9½—9¾ in August to 13½ in November.

The question is whether present prices can be maintained for any time. The members, or most of them, of the present syndicate have already tried the same thing in the 1883-84 crop and have some experience, not only in working up the price, but also in passing the weight of the burden on to some one else's shoulders before the turn downward comes.

In 1883-84, when almost the same syndicate tried to push up the price of the article, they had to cope with the following figures:

The 1882-83 Rio and Santos	bags
exports were.....	6,280,000
The crop exports which	
were working came to over	5,000,000
And ahead of them was	
the promise of a crop which gave	
afterwards for export.....	6,260,000
To-day they have behind them	
for the 1885-86 crop exports	5,270,000
In the present crops about the	
same amount and the next	
or 1887-88, an uncertain	
quality which depends on	
various circumstances, but	
which can not be larger than	
the previous two seasons.	

Without going very far back I only look at the November coffee entries in Rio and see that in spite of the encouraging news from consuming markets and the steadily advancing prices during the month in Rio, the entries only reach 12 to 13,000 bags during the month.

In Santos where entries have averaged about 15,000 bags per diem, which is all the railway could bring down, prices are 380 rs. per 10 kibs. higher than on the 1st. Thus the Rio and Santos entries prove the confidence that planters and holders in the export markets have in the article. This confidence is echoed by the continued purchases by dealers and speculators in the United States and Europe.

Therefore, any combination of speculators here can rest on their oars, for the general feeling being so favorable towards coffee, it could float them along on the way they desire to go.

It will be later that the speculators will have their work cut out, and this will only be when jobbers and dealers in America and Europe recover their senses and are able to recognize the fact that instead of being drowned by coffee shipments they will receive what is sufficient.

A sufficiency is not a famine, as they may find to their cost.

A LOOKER-ON.

Rio, 6th December, 1886.

A NEW BOOK ON BRAZIL.

Three Thousand Miles through Brazil from Rio de Janeiro to Maranhão; by James W. Wells, M. I. C. E., 2 vols. London: Sampson, Low, Marston, Seale & Rivington. 32/-

We are still patiently waiting for what we believe can be written, viz., a good, thorough, reliable, accurate, entertaining, readable book on Brazil. There is no lack of accounts given by scientists, engineers, holiday travellers and others, who have kept a journal for their own private interest and have been compelled by relatives and friends to publish. For the most part it cannot be said that the friends and relatives have been kind either to the authors or to the public. However, that specialists should consider it proper to put the results of their labors into permanent book form is always desirable. Sometimes it happens, it must be confessed, that it is hard to discover in what line the specialty lay. Mr. James W. Wells, the author of *Exploring and Travelling Three Thousand Miles through Brazil from Rio de Janeiro to Maranhão*, is an engineer whose work in this country is quite extensively and favorably known. His experiences have certainly been sufficient and varied enough to afford material for a thoroughly interesting book. An overland journey from Rio de Janeiro to Maranhão is not a commonplace trip by any means. And it is quite true, the statement Mr. Wells makes in his preface: "Such an exceptional experience must largely endow any individual (unless his perception faculties are dormant) with a fund of knowledge of this great Empire." Mr. Wells certainly had splendid opportunities for seeing and studying all phases of Brazilian life. He took it in a cross section, so to speak, and could notice the make up of all the strata. His book gives much valuable information; it covers much ground entirely new, and the author was alive to the many interesting situations in which he often found himself.

But the style of the book we cannot commend. We cannot understand what Mr. Wells had in mind when writing it, or what induced him to so completely spoil the book for all English readers by the introduction of so much bad Portuguese.

The foreign words and expressions can be of no earthly use to any one not understanding the Portuguese language, and to those acquainted with it Mr. Wells has made himself simply ridiculous. In our estimation it is a shameful imposition upon a first class publishing firm to make them bring out a book nearly every page of which is marred by incorrect Portuguese.

There is not the slightest call for the introduction of Portuguese, even correct Portuguese; but when it comes to such expressions as "*Bom viagem*," "*Deus lhe acompanhar*," "*Estrada do beiro do rio*," "*As armas! rapaziadas, as armas!*" and the coming of words such as *malutor*, *perdice*, *camarado*, *rapadoura*, and others, we must confess surprise, seeing that Mr. Wells would have us know him as a "twenty-years-in-the-country, speak-the-language sort of man."

Nor can we think the many blunders in gender can be typographical errors. The difference between *sua* and *seu* is too great to have these interchanged by a type-setter who knows what neither means, and for this reason we do not feel disposed to blame the compositors for *distincto pessoa* and *nosso gente*. Mr. Wells, too, has a peculiar and spasmodic way of translating for the benefit of his English readers. Sometimes the translation is given in parenthesis in the text, and then again the foreign expression will be referred to the bottom of the page and these two methods are used in one and the same paragraph. Again, a word will be used a number of times without being translated and then later in the book will be accompanied with its English equivalent. What pleasure can an English reader, granted that he understands Portuguese, take in such a mixture as "*I am bom* and they are all *boa*, *grças a Deus*, and to the *Santissima Virgem*." Even the confession that the book is a "first literary effort" cannot reconcile one to these glaring defects.

The book is illustrated from sketches made by Mr. Wells, and is accompanied by maps, and with statistical information upon Brazilian railways.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The last "5% surtax" yielded 45,025\$788 in Bahia last month.

—The number of deaths in Campos in November was 75. No epidemic diseases were reported.

—The good people of Amparo, São Paulo, have at last succeeded in raising the required 40,000\$ for a new theatre.

—A daily colleague says that during a recent trip of the bishop to the south of the province of Minas Geraes, 19,238 persons received communion.

—A special credit of 50,000\$ has been opened in the São Paulo provincial treasury to meet the expenses of constructing another wing to the lunatic asylum there.

—Through the emancipation fund 23 slaves were recently liberated at Piracicaba, São Paulo, at a total cost of 12,700\$, and 02 in Campinas at a cost of 54,650\$.

—The November receipts of the Santos custom house amounted to 1,048,771\$724, against 586,821\$104 in the same month of last year. The *meza de vendas* receipts were 239,139\$267.

—The Sociedade Libertadora Bahiana, of Bahia, is striving to secure the liberation of 716 slaves, of which 524 are Africans introduced after the law of 1831. We sincerely trust the effort may be successful.

—The November rainfall in São Paulo amounted to 129.9 millimetres, distributed through 11 days. The average temperature was 66.5° Fahr., the maximum being 89.4° and the minimum 47.5°.

—The November receipts of the São Paulo post-office amounted to 9,957\$200 for the city and 27,188\$380 for the rest of the province, against 9,852\$450 and 24,595\$290 respectively last year.

—Councillor Sablanha Marinho has recently returned from a visit to S. Paulo where he delivered an address before the republican club of Campinas. The activity of the republicans in S. Paulo, particularly in Campinas, is becoming significant.

—It is said that several capitalists of São Paulo have definitely resolved to establish a paper mill in that province. This is an industry which ought to succeed well in Brazil, for there is any quantity of the raw material from which to manufacture paper.

—The Swedish bark *Felice*, from the River Plate, arrived off Santos on the 6th, but was driven off by the gunboat *Afonso Celso*. The bark was ordered to Ilha Grande, but as the master's charts did not show where Ilha Grande is it is not at all certain that he will ever get there.

—According to the *Diário de Santos* the November receipts of coffee at Santos were 363,536 bags, making 1,170,752 bags since July 1st, against 832,024 bags in the same period of last year. The total exports since July 1st amounted to 1,012,784 bags, against 736,644 bags last year.

—According to the *Gazeta*, of Campinas, São Paulo, that city now contains 3,075 buildings, of which 2,514 have but one story. The predial tax on 2,900 of these buildings for the current year yields 43,427\$016. The *Gazeta* allows 5 persons to each building and estimates the present population to be 15,375.

—From the interior of Ceará it is reported there are no further fears of drought.

—The October receipts of the Santa Catharina sub-treasury were 97,371\$88, against 68,997\$87 in the same month of last year.

—The October receipts of the Rio Grande custom houses amounted to 710,891\$85, against 576,936\$67 in the same month of last year. Nearly all this increase was from import duties.

—According to the *Correio Mercantil* of Pelotas, the Rio Grande provincial government has recently arranged a loan of 100,000\$ with Sr. Joaquim José de Assumpção, of that city, at the rate of 6% per annum.

—The approaching election in S. Paulo for a senator is likely to be exciting. There will be two liberal tickets, discord is said to be rife in the conservative camp and the republicans have organized a ticket. Conselheiro Antonio Prado is still the favorite.

—The October receipts of the São Paulo sub-treasury amounted to 1,580,318\$32, against 1,036,177\$505, in the same month of last year, showing an increase of 544,140\$819. The increase from export duties was 100,440\$918, and from import duties 151,507\$990.

—The Pará provincial assembly was opened on the 20th ulto. The president states that the financial position is not satisfactory, and recommends great economy in voting supplies. He does not favor the acquisition of the Bragança railway. The budget project estimates receipts for 1887 at 3,969,630\$ and expenditure 3,380,293\$.

—A couple of thieves recently broke into a *kiouque* in Rio Grande, where they first bound the proprietor, whom they found asleep, and then robbed the place of 228\$ in cash. Before leaving they saturated some cloths with kerosene which they tied fast to the man and then set fire to them. The private police saw the smoke just in time to rescue the unfortunate man from a terrible death.

—A gentleman residing in Itapetininga, São Paulo, recently learned that his father-in-law purposed to free 60 slaves. He at once applied for whatever in Portuguese is a writ of *de lunaticis* and two compliant gentlemen declared the ancient maniac. Two thetums were consulted who did not see the former decision, and the slaves are likely to be freed.

—The Rio de Janeiro provincial government has commissioned Sr. José Carlos de Carvalho with the preparation of a book for immigration propaganda purposes in Europe. It is to describe all the advantages of the province for immigrants, and will contain maps and engravings. The edition is to be 60,000 copies, printed in Italian, French, German and Portuguese.

—The memorial remission in honor of the late Senator José Bonifácio which was held in S. Paulo on the 8th inst., was one of the most imposing manifestations of its kind ever held in Brazil. The S. José theater was packed full of people, who came from every part of the province. Senator Dantas presided, and Dr. Ruy Barbosa delivered the funeral oration. The session lasted four hours.

—A monument was formally inaugurated in the Largo da Graça, Bahia, on the 8th inst., in Dr. Patterson, an English physician who resided in that city for many years and rendered valuable services to the poor in the exercise of his profession. This testimonial is the only one of its kind in Brazil, it was erected not—honors the city who erected it as well as the man whose memory it perpetuates.

—The São Paulo liberals have issued an address in which they declare their programme to be: abolition of slavery in five years, a more extended suffrage, decentralization in provincial matters, municipal autonomy, unrestricted naturalization, and all the principles enunciated in the programmes of 1831 and 1869. It is all good enough for a programme, but will the liberals carry it out when in power?

—We are glad to note that Dr. Trajano Vriato de Medeiros, the valiant inspector-general of public instruction in Rio Grande do Sul who used a military force with fixed bayonets to put down a few refractory school-boys, has been dismissed. As no prosecution is to be made, the boys of Porto Alegre would be amply justified in escorting this dragging inspector out of town with something better than potatoes.

—A police sub-delegado at Arco Grande, Rio Grande, got into an altercation with a Uruguayan at that place on the 20th and undertook to make an arrest effective by beating the poor fellow with his sword. The Uruguayan was drunk, but had been guilty of no crime. In their struggle they got into a gully, where the Uruguayan cut the officer's nose off. He then got away, but in getting over a fence was shot and killed by his assailant. The latter then had his nose fished out of the gully and sewed on.

—The São Paulo liberals have issued an address in which they declare their programme to be: the abolition of slavery in five years, a more extended suffrage, decentralization in provincial matters, municipal autonomy, unrestricted naturalization, and all the principles enunciated in the programmes of 1831 and 1869. It is all good enough for a programme, but will the liberals carry it out when in power? We ought to add that this is the programme of the Andaraí branch of the liberal party, and not of the old section of which Moreira de Barros is one of the leaders.

—The receipts at the Pernambuco custom house in November were 1,081,834\$175, against 793,779\$534 for the same month last year and 948,281\$345 in November, 1884.

—The elections in the 1st Santa Catharina district to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Deputy Escraquello Tanny to the Senate, have resulted in the choice of the conservative candidate, Dr. Fernando Hackrath, the son of an old German colonist and merchant of that province.

—A project has been presented in the Paraná provincial assembly for the protection of home industries. It is proposed to levy an import duty on the following products: 1\$000 per arroba on jerked beef, 300 reis per kilo on goat-hair, 300 reis per kilo on all tobacco except in the leaf, 1000 reis per kilo on laid, 300 reis per kilo on hams, 1000\$ on every privilege conceded in the province and 10% *ad valorem* on furniture and other articles manufactured from wood from other provinces. These taxes are, of course, additional to the general import taxes, and are to be levied on products from other provinces.

RAILROAD NOTES

—It is said that work will be begun on the Uberaba branch of the Mogiana railway sometime during the present month.

—The August receipts of the Alagoas railway were 5,993\$220 and the expenditures 14,150\$310, showing a deficit of 8,157\$090.

—The stations along the Vianna and S. Carlos do Piauí lines, in São Paulo, are said to be full of coffee awaiting transportation.

—The November receipts of the Carangola railway amounted to 40,170\$220. Expenditures not published.

—The Westinghouse Air Brake company has just declared a cash dividend of 50 per cent. and a stock dividend of 400 per cent. —*Exchange.*

—A meeting of capitalists has been held at Casa Branca, São Paulo, to discuss the construction of a railway from that point to connect with the D. Pêlo 11 line.

—The November traffic receipts of the Leopoldina railway were 231,936\$420, of which 49,916\$160 from passengers and 144,789\$980 from goods. Expenses are not published.

—The July, August and September receipts of the S. Carlos do Piauí line amounted to 144,594\$860, and the expenditures to 63,250\$220, leaving a surplus of 81,344\$640.

—The surveys have been completed for a railway from Mogi-guaçu to Espírito Santo do Piauí, São Paulo, which is to be 38 kilometers long and serve a rich and promising coffee region whose present production is about 100,000 bags.

—The October receipts of the Paulista company amounted to 378,229\$560, and the expenditures to 126,609\$060, leaving a surplus of 251,620\$500. The total surplus since July 1st amounts to 602,563\$040.

—The government, by a decree of the 11th, extended the time for the construction of the Timbó branch of the Bahia and S. Francisco railway by two months, the company being fined 2% a month on the guaranteed interest paid up to the 15th inst.

—The minister of agriculture on the 3rd advises the president of the province of Pernambuco that when railways are declared to be of general interest, this does not cause the lapsing of provincial contracts for the building of three same roads. This decision was made on an appeal of the Great Western of Brazil railway.

—Mr. W. J. Ali at the meeting of the Brazil Great Southern railway company represented that on 30th June last they had discharged all their liabilities, had £31,712 at their bankers' and had made a most successful issue of the balance of the debenture capital, the proceeds of which were fully paid up by the 5th Aug. —*Statist.* Nov. 13.

—The August receipts of the Sorocabana line were as follows: *trunk* receipts 44,693\$330, expenditures 32,664\$386, balance 12,028\$944; *Vieta branch*, receipts 8,912\$330, expenditures 6,541\$955, balance 2,370\$375. For September the receipts on the first were 48,419\$240, expenditures 29,977\$983, and surplus 18,441\$257.

—The August receipts of the São Paulo railway amounted to 551,378\$160 and the expenditures to 272,303\$190, leaving a surplus of 278,084\$070. The government passenger tax yielded 3,587\$800, and the provincial tax 32,151\$130. For various reasons the government threw out 1,447\$860 from the expense account.

—The president of Rio de Janeiro, after making an arrangement with some English capitalists for the sale of the Cantagallo line, appears to have received higher offers from native speculators. In trying to take advantage of these, there is now strong probability that no sale will be effected. The truth is, the road is not worth the first offer.

—The embargo which the Carris Urbanas company put upon the new line laid through Rua Senador Dantas, from the opera house to the Passeio Público, by the Botanical Garden company, has finally been raised, the courts deciding that this line is not an infringement of the former company's privilege. The new line will be a great convenience to the travelling public.

LOCAL NOTES

—If one man holds out a stick and another rubs his back and head against it, why should he be arrested?

—Daily telegrams about the health of the late Countess and the maintenance of the *cordão amarelo* are now interesting to the public.

—Most of the public and private schools of the city are now closing for the holidays. We are glad to note a tendency toward extending the holidays so as to include more of the hot season.

—By a decree of the 11th, Sr. Manoel José de Souza was nominated secretary of police in this capital. We trust that he will be a little more obliging and civil in the granting of passport visas than was his predecessor.

—The quarantine against River Plate arrivals is now 15 days, the cargo of vessels being left to the discriminating judgment of the health inspector. Also the cases of vessels arriving with cholera on board are left to the tender mercies of the same authority.

—In response to the complaint made by a tender-hearted parent against Dr. Joaquim Abilio Borges for whipping his boy in school, the inspector-general of primary and secondary public instruction has suspended that teacher from the exercise of his profession for a period of three months.

—There seems to be an unusual amount of eloping and girl-snapping now-a-days! What is the matter with the sexes, anyway? Is it an epidemic, or is it simply the usual thing, with the addition of only a little more publicity? It is to be feared that the Emperor's renege of interest in the catchword is not without good and sufficient cause!

—A telegram from Montevideo on the 10th inst. announces the appearance of cholera in that city, which had broken out most mysteriously in the beggars' asylum, and in one of the salarials. The infection is said to have been brought by two men who had stolen through the sanitary picket line on the Argentine frontier, but that hardly explains its appearance at the asylum.

—Two burglars were caught in a house in Rua do Riachuelo on the morning of the 11th inst., a neighbor having seen them break in. The police were informed and surrounded the house before the thieves could get away with their plunder. The people of the house were absent at the time. The thieves had secured about 1,000\$ worth of property when detected. One of them carried a knife.

—The inspector-general of hygiene has been taking some account of sanitary matters in the city since the 1st inst.; that is, instructions have been issued to the district inspectors to see that all refuse is promptly carried away, the streets kept clean, and the premises of private residences are kept in a proper sanitary condition. We have seen no very active efforts to comply with these instructions thus far.

—A change took place at the Santa Cruz slaughter house the other day. Sr. João Francisco Soares being reinstated in the directorship of the institution from which he had been removed some time ago. On assuming charge, he ordered the foreman of the killing department to resign, which the latter declined to do. The director then set a lot of his *capangas* on the foreman, who gave him a tremendous beating with clubs. We venture to say, however, that this man who was nearly killed, will not receive a particle of the sympathy recently expressed for a school-boy who got a merited whipping in school for immoral conduct.

—Blue ribbonists residing in the suburban wards of Engenho Novo, Inhaúma and Engenho Velho have been having a rough time of it. The water supplied these districts seems to have been filtered through hog-sties, stables, etc., and the owners of the land through which the streams flow seem to have purposely polluted the water from spite, because the government did not buy their properties. The inspector-general of hygiene reported to the minister of empire on the 29th ulto., and steps are to be taken to correct the present state of the streams. The correction which these misdoers of innocent water consumers deserve, is a quiet and unpretentious service of hanging.

—At 2 o'clock on the morning of the 11th inst. two burglars were discovered in the grounds of a private house in S. Christóvão by the man servant of the house, an Italian. Among himself with a knife, he gave chase. The thieves being unable to easily scale the wall, drew their knives. In the fight which ensued the Italian servant was killed and one of the burglars was so injured that he could not escape. A police *delgado* lived near and was informed of the occurrence by the neighbors, and promptly appeared on the scene, but it was nearly an hour before a policeman responded to the calls for help. In view of the daily occurrences of this character, and of the gross inefficiency of the police, the law-abiding people of this city will be amply justified in using their revolvers whenever a burglar is caught in the house. Shooting, or Lynch law, is the only cure for the evil.

—H. B. M. S. *Watchful* arrived here on the 10th from the Cape of Good Hope.

—We regret to hear of the death of Mr. Robert Dunt, which took place from pneumonia in Petropolis on the 13th inst.

—The able men charged with malpractices in the slaughter-house business have all been "white-washed" finally. Only the wings are now wanting.

—A Havas telegram published here on the 7th states that the financial statement presented to the Congress of the United States shows a surplus of \$900,000. There seems a zero or two missing.

—Our esteemed colleague of the *Rio Post* has our sincere condolences. To be sat upon by the *Export* and the Berlin correspondent of the *Journal* is a sad fate indeed! And the worst of it is that the *Post* is well informed, which can not be said of the immigration speculators in Berlin.

—The Argentine treasury appears to be behind about \$3,000,000, and the government proposes to make a new loan for that amount. For a small country, the Argentine Republic seems to be doing a pretty large amount of borrowing.

—The corvette *Almirante Barrero*, Capt. Saldanha da Gama, arrived here on the night of the 7th. The corvette has visited the United States, the Azores islands, Madeira, etc. D. Augusto, grandson of the Emperor, has been a shipman on the corvette during the cruise.

—The minister of empire asks his colleague of justice to prosecute the *juiz de paz* who ordered some men to bury the sanitary cordon at Ilha Grande, and who were captured. The pity seems to be that the soldiers composing the cordon did not make coffins necessary for these gentlemen.

—The minister of finance is likely to make a good show at the next meeting of parliament. The returns from the custom houses are generally showing marked increases over last year's revenue, to which the better crops in the north and considerably higher prices of coffee in the south have largely contributed.

—On the 9th a priest and a sexton fell out on political questions in the Sacramento church. The priest, who is not properly named Batalha, is said to have thrown the sexton at the sexton, and the latter gave the reverend gentleman a smart box on the ears. Which argument was most conclusive does not appear, but both being *ad hominem*, one must be correct.

—The *Journal* of the 4th calls attention to the very rare bestowal of honors by the government upon persons for the gratuitous liberation of their slaves. The *Journal* urges that the Coteigie cabinet is opposed to all such encouragement to emancipationists. Its favors would more likely be conferred upon persons for reducing freedmen to the condition of slaves.

—According to the *Gazeta da Bahia* the American packet *Admiral* was fired upon three times—once with ball—when entering the port of Bahia. These senseless exhibitions of authority merit a prompt reclamation, and we trust that Secretary Bayard will lose no time in demanding reparation. There was not the slightest necessity for it, as the authorities at Bahia knew the steamer and the port she hailed from.

—Now that the *whattor* ablermen and the director of that establishment have been victoriously acquitted of the charge of exacting illegal fees from cable mechanics for their own personal uses, we trust that no one will have the hardihood to call in question the character of our municipal fathers and their little council. To be sure the illegal fees were exacted and paid; but when the highest court in the country says that no crime was committed there is nothing more to say. It appears, however, that all the witnesses had mysteriously disappeared.

—Our attention has been again called to the excellent remedial properties of lemon juice, one of nature's best remedies. The *Journal* of the 4th contains a letter from a gentleman who had suffered 30 years from dyspepsia, and who, after reading a little monograph on the curative properties of lemon juice by Mr. John Dowdley, tried that treatment and was cured. Lemon juice is not a potent medicine, and it is not a costly drug. Its use in hot weather—either with or without—can not fail to prove beneficial.

—We took a ride down through the Saule and Gamboa districts a few days ago, and from what is seen there we are inclined to think that cholera will find everything in good and proper order for an active campaign when it arrives here. The condition of the streets in those localities is a burning disgrace to the city, and their filthiness will certainly furnish good food for the cholera. Instead of spending all their money on the Ilha Grande lazaretto, and all their efforts on the few municipal and misanthropic streets of the city, the health authorities should do something effective at once to clean out and improve these slums. Cholera will break out in the Rua do Ouvidor or the Rua Senador Vergueiro, but it will break out in the saule, where it will stay until the place is thoroughly cleansed. To speak frankly, there is a little too much favoritism in this sanitary business, and there is a very strong suspicion of stealing.

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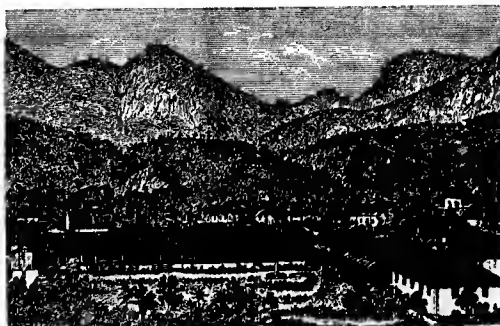
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